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(54) Title: A METHOD FOR THE PRODUCTION OF HTV-1 GAG VIRUS-LIKE PARTICLES

(57) **Abstract:** The invention describes a vector including a nucleotide sequence encoding an HIV Gag polypeptide for use in the production of HIV-1 Gag virus-like particles. The vector may be a plant vector, for example, a tobacco mosaic virus vector such as the pBSG1057 vector or a tobacco etch virus vector. The vector may also be an *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* containing a T-derived plasmid construct. Alternatively, the vector may be an insect vector such as a baculovirus vector. HIV-1 Gag virus-like particles are also described, as is the use of the virus-like particles in a vaccine for use in the treatment or prophylaxis of HIV infection in a mammal, the vaccine including virus-like particles of proteins or polypeptides substantially as described above.

WO 2004/050691 A3

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/IB 03/05634

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
IPC 7 C07K14/16 C12N15/82 C12N5/10

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 7 C07K C12N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, BIOSIS, Sequence Search

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category <sup>a</sup>	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 02/04494 A (SWANSTROM RONALD IVAR ; UNIV NORTH CAROLINA (US); JOHNSTON ROBERT EDWA) 17 January 2002 (2002-01-17) Seq. ID No. 1 abstract; claim 5 -----	1-27
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X	WO 02/03917 A (UNIV NORTH CAROLINA ; CALEY IAN (US); DAVIS NANCY (US); KEITH PAULA (U) 17 January 2002 (2002-01-17) page 57, last paragraph; example 5 abstract page 82, paragraph 1 -----	1-27

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

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## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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